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GEO. F. BEEDE'S

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U. S. Department of Agriculture.

STRAWBERRY CATALOGUE,

1895.

To my Customers.

IT gives me pleasure to again hand my customers my annual Strawberry Catalogue. Formerly I have issued a July Report. This year I have made a new departure, and combine the two in one. A July Report and Spring Catalogue should agree in descriptions, both giving reliable information. For convenience I print them together. I propose to sell plants with true descriptions and offer the best we have; ideal and perfect varieties are largely imaginative and delusive.

Strawberry plants the past season made so rapid growth in June and July, that a large part of my plants are too large for transplanting; worth more to stand for fruit than to sell, which will reduce my stock of salable plants.

My plants are well grown, true to name, and will be packed in the best manner possible, also warranted to reach my customers in excellent condition for immediate planting, as fresh as though they were taken from your own ground. Any one having cause for complaint, state it promptly. All mistakes corrected.

I endeavor to keep abreast of all real improvement. Of new varieties not personally tested for fruit, I offer those only that have a good record outside of introducers' claims, are vigorous healthy growers, without descriptions, expressing no opinion of their value. This will appear in my July Report for the ensuing year.

We are sure to have improved varieties in the near future. We all want them. Some growers seem to have them always on hand to sell for a fancy price, and more in sight ready for a boom next season. My advice is try these novelties with great caution, in small quantities. You can afford to wait two or three years. You will not want many of them after the new is off and you can buy these few for much less money. Judging by the past I do not expect to get more than one variety in five years good enough to go into the select list.

My customers are sure of getting plants of my own growing. I do not sell any plants second handed and never buy them for my own use, if I can avoid it. I do not dig plants in the fall for spring sales; all are fresh from the ground when orders are filled.

To prospective customers I would say, if you will give me a trial order I am confident I can please you. I have many unsolicited testimonials, but prefer to have you send me an order, even a small one, and have my plants and packing tell their own story. They will give you perfect satisfaction, and in the future I hope to receive larger and repeated orders from you when in want of strawberry plants.

Strawberry Culture.

SOILS.—The strawberry will grow on almost any kind of soil. It will thrive where you can grow good field and garden crops. A deep, moist soil, well drained, is best. Use ground that has been cultivated in hoed crops, at least two years.

Preparation.—Plow late in the fall, manure liberally, harrowed in; plow again in the spring, and if you have it to spare, manure again, if coarse plow in, if fine harrow in. Unleached wood ashes and fine ground bone are the best commercial fertilizers. Apply these around the plants soon after setting out and often through the season.

Early spring is the best time to plant. They will grow, with proper care, set at any season of the year, when the ground is not frozen.

Fall setting is becoming popular. I cannot advise it. If anyone has neglected to set out in spring and is very desirous of a bed to take the place of an old one, set in July or as early in August as possible. Plants for summer or early fall setting should be grown from fall set plants not allowed to fruit. No one can afford to take up plants rooted from spring set plants so early in the season. It would ruin the beds for fruiting and plants later on. Plants from old beds are worthless for setting at any season of the year.

The plants are best of medium size, grown from vigorous stock not allowed to bear fruit. Trim the plants and shorten the roots one-third. Use marker or line for rows four feet apart, set plants from two feet to fifteen inches in the row, according to the vigor of the variety. Plant with a special trowel, flat like a mason's, wider and full at the point, with an extra large handle. Open hole on line with trowel, a little slanting, bring trowel forward without removing it; spread out roots of plant, set with crown even with the top soil, roots full depth, remove trowel, firm the soil about roots, add a little loose dirt without firming. The roots should not be exposed to the air and should be kept moist while setting. This method practically insures the life of the plant. The plant is always set in moist soil with best conditions for immediate growth.

Provide plenty of pollen.—Staminate varieties are those which carry their own pollen, and are called perfect flowering. Pure pistillate varieties contain no pollen, are imperfect flowering and require the aid of a staminate variety before they will produce fruit. I plant, usually, one row of staminates to two rows of pistillates; when I want more staminate plants for sale, then I plant in alternate rows two of each.

Cut all blossoms as they appear, as it will weaken the plants very much to allow them to bear fruit the first season after fruiting. Some growers advocate cutting all runners until the first of July. This is wrong for fruit. We are quite sure to have dry weather set in at that time, plants will not send out runners freely, or root them in the dry soil. The best way is to get a good center row rooted as early as possible and then allow them to spread as fast as they will. I like to have full rows by the first of July and keep the paths clear by cutting the runners. By this method you get plenty of large stooled plants, that will bear the finest fruit in abundance. It is one thing to grow strawberries with the intention of having a large stock of salable plants, and a very different thing to have a good wide bed of strong, vigorous plants to bear fruit. The reason given for cutting first runners is this: that you strengthen the plant set. A strong, healthy plant, set early, does not require two months for recruiting. It is ready for business at once. It is the weak, late grown plants, that need two months, and often the whole season for recruiting, and when winter brings an end to all growth, this kind is still tired. Again the parent plant is not of much account for fruit, you get the bulk of the crop from the second and third plants from the one set. The earlier in the season you get these rooted the larger will be the crop of berries. Fine fruit can be grown with plants in hills or in narrow stool rows, keeping all runners cut. The above method will give fruit as good, more to the acre, and at less cost. Strawberries do better shaded from the sun, they color better and hold out longer. This condition is best obtained in thin matted rows, not in narrow rows or hills.

Cultivate soon after setting out, after heavy rains and often enough to keep the beds clear of weeds. All kinds of weeds of any size should be removed from the ground.

Winter protection.—When the ground freezes in the fall, cover between the rows and lightly over the plants with straw, old hay, pine needles or any light litter. For fruit do not remove in the spring, except over the plants, place this between the rows to keep the ripe fruit from the dirt.

Marketing.—Pick in the cool of the day. Grade the fruit, handle as little as possible, pack at once and market early.

Renew old beds, if in good condition, by mowing soon after fruiting. Clean out the paths and beds, cultivate and hoe same as spring set beds, keeping runners cut.

Description of Varieties.

THOSE marked P. have pistillate or imperfect blossoms, and should have every third or fourth row planted with perfect flowering kinds, in order that the flowers may be fertilized. Descriptions of newer varieties, named in price list, can be found in July Report, 1894.

Barton's Eclipse, P.—Fruit very large, dark scarlet, obtuse conical, moderately firm, good quality. Season early. Plant vigorous, free from rust and very productive. One of the best for market or family garden.

Beverly.—Large size, deep crimson, a beautiful colored berry, oblong conical, first berries ribbed, firm, best quality. Fruit sells for fancy prices. Season long, medium to late. Plant hardy, vigorous, and free from rust.

Crescent, P.—Small to medium size, bright scarlet, conical, moderately firm, good quality. Early and long season. Plant very vigorous, free from rust and very productive. Will produce more fruit under careless culture than any variety. Improves wonderfully with high culture. One of the most profitable for market, reliable for home use.

Enhance.—Large size, light red, irregular form, good quality. Plant vigorous, fairly productive. Popular in some localities.

Lovett's.—Fruit averages large, bright red color, conical, firm and good quality. Plant vigorous and healthy. A reliable variety. One of the best with perfect flower. Season medium.

Parker Earle.—Large, scarlet, long conical with neck, firm and good quality. Season late. Plant vigorous with stooling habit and few runners. Needs high culture to ripen all the fruit set.

Saunders.—Large, dark scarlet, bright and glossy, obtuse conical, firm, good quality. Season medium to late. Plant fairly vigorous, makes plenty of plants that bear freely in thick matted row. Desirable for family berry.

Warfield, P.—Large, dark red, conical with neck, firm, good quality. Early and long season. Plant vigorous, making many runners and very productive. Needs moist soil and plenty of room. The most productive variety with me. On dry ground and in some places the foliage shows weakness.

Wilson.—Small, dark red, conical, firm and good quality for table use. Plant fairly vigorous and very productive. Should be set new every spring. Warfield and Wilson are extra good shipping berries.

A New Variety.

FREMONT.—This is from seed of Belmont, grown in 1891. Fruit medium size, dark crimson, glossy, conical, moderately firm and best quality. Perfect blossom. Plant vigorous, healthy, with stooling habit, making plenty of plants, productive, especially fall set plants. It is valuable for late berry, quality and home use. Price, 50 cents per dozen.

Remarks.—Please Notice.

IN ordering, write your name plainly, giving address. A postal card will be sent acknowledging the receipt of your order. Plants sent as soon as the season opens, about the first of May, unless otherwise ordered.

No substitution of varieties; you can rely upon getting what you order and nothing else. When selection is left to me, valuable varieties will be sent. Many varieties have a local value. Selections for the family garden should be from standard varieties, that succeed over a wide range.

Money may be sent at my risk by Registered Letter, P. O. Money Order or Express Money Order, both payable at Fremont, N. H.

Reference.—Amoskeag National Bank, Manchester, N. H.

Location.—One and one-half miles from Fremont

July Report for 1894.

Station on Worcester, Mass., and Rochester, N. H., B. & M. R. R. Also 2 miles from West Epping Station, C. & M. R. R. Visitors or customers are cordially received. Write and teams will meet you at stations free of expense.

Dip plants in water as soon as received; shorten roots one-third. If not ready to set out, bury the roots in moist soil, in a shady place, full depth, placing the crowns even with the top soil, spread the plants out singly, firm the soil about the roots and mulch the ground with straw or hay. If possible, when setting out, take advantage of a moist, or cloudy day, or late in the afternoon. If you set in dry weather, do not expose the roots to the air and keep moist as you set the plants. Full directions for setting in Strawberry Culture.

Prices are for plants sent by mail or express, *prepaid*.

Special prices for larger quantities on application, buyer to pay express charges.

Six plants of one variety, at dozen rates, and fifty at hundred rates. *Terms strictly cash.*

Price List.

VARIETIES marked P. have pistillate, or imperfect flowers.

New Varieties.

	PRICE PER DOZ.	100
Bisel	\$1.00	\$5.00
Rio	1.00	5.00
Tennessee Prolific	1.00	5.00
Afton, P.	.50	3.00
Hersey	.50	3.00
Ivanhoe	.50	3.00
No Name	.50	3.00
Robinson	.50	3.00
Splendid	.50	3.00
Watson	.50	3.00
Wicomico, P.	.50	3.00

Select and Popular Varieties.

Marshall	.50	3.00
Barton's Eclipse, P.	.30	1.50
Beauty, P.	.30	1.50
Beverly	.30	1.50
Enhance	.30	1.50
Greenville, P.	.30	1.50
Lovett's	.30	1.50
Judsonia	.30	
Norther	.30	
Parker Earle	.30	
Princeton Chief, P.	.30	1.50
Saunders	.30	1.50
Shuckless	.30	1.50
Southard	.30	1.50
Timbrell, P.	.30	1.50
Wentzell	.30	
Warfield, P.	.30	1.00
Wilson	.30	
Crescent, P.	.30	1.00

Address,

GEO. F. BEEDE,

FREMONT, N. H.

THE strawberry crop the past season was an extra good one, both in quantity and quality. Owing to the scarcity of money, prices were a little lower than usual. The season was early and short. Sales by crate, three weeks, plenty for table use, and a few to spare, from five to six weeks. Prolonging the season is secured by setting early and late varieties.

Select Varieties.

In former reports I have given full descriptions of all well tested varieties, which I shall not repeat. This list is for a comparatively distant market, not for home use. I need a good sized, bright, showy berry, firm enough to stand up and look well a day or two after picking. The following proved the best for me this season: Barton's Eclipse, Beverly, Bubach, Cyclone, Lovett's, Parker Earle and Warfield. I still plant Crescent and Wilson to a limited extent for their productiveness; they are too small to go into a select list. I have rejected Beder Wood for softness and small size in last pickings. I shall experiment with Meek's Early for early staminate variety to take the place of Beder Wood. Haverland, I regret to say, must go on account of softness. For near market it is one of the best, and must be included in a list of the best five for all purposes. Growers that tie to Haverland should try Cyclone to set with it for fertilizer. It is same color, shape, season, firmer and better quality. All things considered Beverly, Bubach, Haverland, Lovett's and Warfield are the best five varieties. In order named Beder Wood, Meek's Early, Norther, Southard, Warfield and Crescent were the earliest. Parker Earle, Swindle and Beverly the latest. The most profitable, Beverly, Warfield, Bubach, Barton's Eclipse, Greenville and Lovett's. The most productive, Warfield, Beverly, Crescent, Greenville and Epping. Largest in size, Bubach, Beauty, Brigg's Seedling, Beverly and Barton's Eclipse.

Productive Varieties.

The following were productive, but too small: Alabama, Gypsy, Katie, Lady Rusk, Sadie, Standard and Westbrook. The following were too soft or light colored: Enhance, Epping, Eureka, Great Pacific, Mass. Expr. Sta. Seedling No. 24, Mrs. Cleveland and Shuster's Gem. Swindle was very productive, late, firm and good color, but the foliage failed before all the berries ripened. E. P. Roe was productive, but poor foliage. Saunders, fine and productive, better adapted to home use than for market.

Varieties of Not Much Value.

The following, having more or less merit, were not productive enough or failed in foliage: Anna Forest, Auburn, Beaver's Seedling, Beede, Belle of La Cross, Belle, California, Clark's Early or Early Idaho, Dayton, Dew, Draper's Seedling, Eva, Felton, Iowa Beauty, Leader, Muskingum, Shaw and Van Deman.

The following older varieties I have fruited the past three years; most of them were in my trial beds this season, but do not find value enough to retain: Belmont and Bomba, both fine for home use, Bubach No. 132, Burt, Chas. Downing, Cloud, Crawford, Cumberland, Daisy, Edgar Queen, Farnsworth, Gandy, Glendale, Gold, Golden De Fiance, Gov. Hoard, Gillispie, Henderson, Hoffman, Jersey Queen, Jessie, Jewell, Jucunda Improved, Kirkwood, Lida, Louise, Monmouth, Manchester, Martha, May King, Mianie, Michel's Early, Middle-

field, Mineró Prolific, Monmouth, Ohio, Oliver, Oregon Everbearing, Ontario, Pary, Pearl, Phillip's Seedling, Pineapple, Piper, Prince of Berries, Princess, Puritan, Sharpless, Stayman's No. 1, Sandoval, Summit, Tippecanoe, Viola, Williams, Windsor Chief, Woolverton and Yale.

Varieties Tested One Year.

Pistillate varieties are marked P.

Those most desirable are in heavy type.

America.—An average variety, no improvement.

Aroma.—Large size, good form, dark red and good quality. Plant not very vigorous, productive.

Beauty, P.—Very large, bright red color, good form and fair quality. Plant rather small, vigorous and productive.

Bessie, P.—Not productive.

Brandywine.—Large size, perfect form, bright red color, firm and good quality. Plant very vigorous, medium productiveness.

Brigg's Seedling.—Very large, productive, needs further trial, promising.

Charlie, P.—Large, fine fruit. Plant vigorous and productive, promising.

Cyclone.—Fruit large, bright scarlet color, long conical, firm and good quality. Plant very vigorous, foliage healthy, very productive. Evidently a great acquisition. A mate for Haverland.

Edward's Favorite.—Not productive.

Glen Mary, P.—Very large, dark red color, coarse shape, moderately firm, poor quality. Plant vigorous and productive.

Greenville, P.—Large, dark red, medium firm, fair quality. Plant vigorous, with curled leaf. Very productive.

Judsonia.—Perfect plant; not productive.

Jay Gould, P.—No special merit except the name.

Klickita, P.—Plant does not flourish here. Not productive.

Marshall.—Fruit very large, dark red, colored all through, fine shape and best quality. Plant very large, vigorous, a little rust; stools up before sending out runners; productive; every blossom perfects a berry. Excellent for home use and exhibition.

Meek's Early.—Large, dark red, good shape and quality. Early, vigorous, healthy plant, promising.

Mount Holyoke.—Poor plant, very productive, failed to ripen all the crop. Fruit medium sized, not desirable.

Nehring's Gem, P.—Does not flourish here.

Norther.—Small and good; early. Plant poor grower, productive. No value.

Ona, P.—Worthless.

Orange County, P.—Same. No fruit.

Otsego, P.—Not productive.

Princeton Chief, P.—Fruit medium sized, dark red, not attractive, fair quality. Plant very vigorous and healthy, not productive. This had a good record West and promised well. I was much disappointed with the fruit. I shall give it a good test next season.

Regina, P.—Small fruit, poor plant, poor all through, no redeeming quality.

Southard.—Medium sized fruit, good color and quality, firm; early. Plant good grower and productive.

Sterling, P.—Rusts badly; very little fruit.

Shuckless.—Large fruit of fair quality. Plant vigorous, nothing remarkable.

Thompson's No. 64.—No special merit.

Timbrell, P.—Large size, spotted color (red, white, and a little rot), good form, best quality. Plant fairly vigorous, but gets tired before all the fruit is ripe. One of the delusive kind.

Wentzell.—Very large, bright scarlet, firm and good quality. Plant fairly vigorous, productive.

Weston, P.—I got a surprise here; three good varieties, where I expected one only. Weston appears promising; will test it further.

I also fruited the Wm. Belt, Howard's No. 25, 41 and 501, from fall set plants. All are promising, more especially Howard's No. 501, which indicates great value for market. It is from Jersey Queen crossed with Wilson. Large size, fine color and form, firmness enough for a good shipping berry, and best quality. Perfect blossom. Plant vigorous, healthy and very productive. The varieties that are promising in the above list and are for sale appear in the price list. I set last spring for fruit about one-fourth of an acre of Brandywine. I offer no plants for sale. Decided not to accept introducer's final terms. Spring set plants in 1893 indicated great productiveness. The test of 1894, from spring set plants and potted plants set in August, not so good in this respect.

Newer Varieties.

I have the following varieties set last spring to fruit next season, many of them new, and several in the list are sent for trial before introduction: Afton, Arrow, Benham, Bisel, Carrie, Crusoe's No. 9, Edith, Equinox, Hersey, Hunt's No. 3, Howard's No. 2, No. 23 and No. 36, Itasca, Ivanhoe, Logan, Leroy, Mary, No Name, Ohio Centennial, Prize, Premium, Roser, Rio, Richmond, Robinson, Reuben **, Splendid, Sunny Side, Sherman, Tennessee Prolific, Thompson's No. 40 and 66, Watson and Wicomico. Those in heavy type are strong, vigorous growers, with healthy foliage; those for sale appear in price list.

I give no descriptions of the fruit, as I do not know anything about them, positively. Several cost two dollars per dozen last spring, but this is no indication of their merit. The test next fruiting season will show their place in the list. Rio has quite a reputation for an early variety; Bisel and Splendid for market. Tennessee Prolific an improved Haverland, excepting for firmness, which is about the same. It is a better plant, one of the best.

Seedlings.

My report would not be complete without mentioning the Seedlings in my trial beds. One plot is Howard's No. 41, crossed with Brandywine and Marshall, another the same crossed with No. 25, No. 501 and other choice Seedlings. These, as might be expected, show a great variety. These are remarkably vigorous, and a large part of them very healthy foliage. One plot of Crescent crossed with Bomba show strongly marked resemblance in foliage to parent plants; about eighty-five per cent. are of Crescent type, the others of Bomba. I do not profess to judge the fruit by the foliage, so shall wait to test their value. Size of fruit may be indicated, somewhat, by the size of the leaf, but when the color, shape and quality of the fruit, also its productiveness, is included, I must confess that I have not progressed so far.

The Strawberry Culturist.

A quarterly published at Salisbury, Md., at 20 cents a year. It is devoted exclusively to the strawberry. It is brimful of good, reliable information, and is just the thing to help any one in strawberry culture. Address,
"THE STRAWBERRY CULTURIST," Salisbury, Md.